

To JP Collier.

18, Gilbert Street, Grosvenor Square
April 7, 1845

My dear Collier,

I am afraid I shall not be able to get to the Shakespeare Society to-morrow, as I intended. My time has been so much cut up with these stupid squabbles in the Archaeological Association, that I have been hindered from attending to the other societies, and now I am struggling to get done my second volume of *Bibliographia Literaria*. When that is done I will finish the *Chester Mysteries*.

I am very anxious you should keep Mr Halliwell on the Council - will you see to it. If he should go off before this most calumnious affair about the MSS. ~~are over~~ is publicly cleared (which it will be soon), the people who set the reports about would immediately turn it to his disadvantage, and it would be very annoying. I have sifted the matter most thoroughly, and I am as much convinced of ~~my~~ Halliwell's entire innocence as I am of my own existence. As far as I can see, nothing

but malevolence could have made
anything out of it against him.
It is my opinion that Trin. Coll.
will acquit him of all suspicion—
if they doubt he is prepared to take
the most public method he can
of clearing himself. Trin. Coll. has
not given him any reason to think
they suspect him.

If there is any want of places
vacancies, and it is proposed to keep
me on the Council, I would willingly
go off to make way for Halliwell;
if he goes off, it is my wish to go off
with him, in order as far as I can
to protect him. I am only writing
all this to you in private, but if
necessary you may fully state my
feeling.

I am glad to hear they have
elected you treasurer at the Camden—
I have not been able to attend there
lately, so that I fear I shall get
put off the Council.

Believe me, my dear Collins,
Ever faithfully yours,
Thomas Wright

